

RECEIVED MAR 27 1998

Sub B) 22. The cover of claim 17, wherein the joint filling material is an open celled polyurethane foam capable of absorbing moisture to increase ballast of the pipeline.

23. The cover of claim 17, wherein the cover material includes a sheet of material wrapped in a cylindrical shape and having overlapping side edges sealed together to form said annular space.

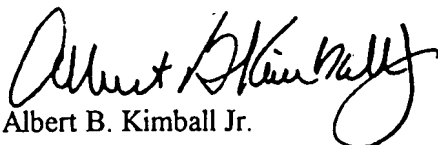
24. The cover of claim 23, wherein the joint filling material is an open celled polyurethane foam capable of absorbing moisture to increase ballast of the pipeline.

25. The cover of claim 23, wherein the joint filling material is an open celled polyurethane foam formed by reacting polyurethane chemicals inside the cover material and capable of absorbing moisture to increase ballast of the pipeline.

26. The cover of claim 25, wherein said cover material includes an opening formed for injecting the joint filling material into said annular space.

Sub B) 27. The cover of claim 17, wherein the cover material is between about 0.02 inches to about 0.5 inches in thickness.

Respectfully submitted,

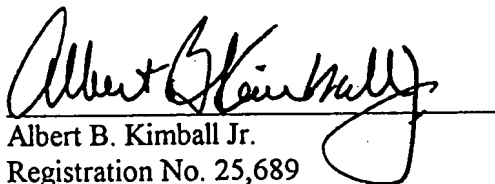


Albert B. Kimball Jr.
Registration No. 25,689

PRAVEL, HEWITT, KIMBALL & KRIEGER
1177 W. Loop So., 10th Fl.
Houston, TX 77027
713/850-0909
FAX 713/850-0909

CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.10

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on the 26 day of March, 1998.


Albert B. Kimball Jr.
Registration No. 25,689